



April 21, 2004

Ms. Sharon Jaffess  
Remedial Project Manager  
US EPA Region 5  
Superfund Division  
77 W. Jackson Blvd. (SR-6J)  
Chicago, IL 60604

RE: Ashland/NSP Lakefront Superfund Site  
WDNR BRRTS #02-02-00013  
CERCLA Docket No. V-W-04-C-764  
USEPA ID# WISFN057952  
Addendum Work Plan for Collection of Smelt, *Osmerus mordax*

Dear Ms. Jaffess:

We regret the apparent confusion caused by the smelt sampling effort Tuesday evening (April 20, 2004). As you indicated in your email from earlier today, Jaime Dunn connected with URS' sampling team this morning. (Jaime now has the cell phone numbers carried by the team and he can contact them readily, as needed.) As a result of that meeting, the team is assembling the equipment needed to complete the work this evening. Accordingly, I'll try to summarize what we've accomplished, so far and what we're planning for later tonight.

You correctly noted that the Addendum work plan for this sampling was not specific about the type of nets. However, we did not plan to use a boat. URS' staff discussed using seine nets and chest waders with Steve Schram, the WDNR fisheries contact, prior to mobilizing to the site. He indicated to them that he would be unable to be on site with them, but that their approach was acceptable. The team successfully collected samples from the first reference station at Pamida Beach Monday evening. However, when they moved to the Hot Pond area near the Bay Front power plant, the water was too turbid. By that time, they decided to wait until Wednesday evening.

The team is currently in Duluth purchasing a fyke net to set north of the former POTW. The current plan is to set this net off shore from the former POTW between the 2100E and 2200E lines as shown on Figure 3A in the Revision 01 Work Plan. As shown on that figure, this represents an area reasonably near the contaminated zone without entering it. The team will be outfitted with chest waders and nitrile gloves. However, we recognize that we may not be successful catching smelt in this area. We understand that it historically is not fished for smelt because the wood chips interfere with the normal migration path. As a result, the team is planning to seine the area off Kreher Park beach as a backup for the contaminated zone if no

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samples are collected in the fyke net. Finally, the southwestern reference station will be collected tonight as well. At this time, the team is considering somewhere between Bayfront and Fish Creek, and will make a final determination tonight.

The team will contact Mark Pistilli as you requested to alert him to this program.

Again, we apologize for any confusion. Let us know if you have any questions or remaining concerns.

Sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David P. Trainor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David P. Trainor  
Associate

cc: Mr. Jamie Dunn  
Mr. Jerry Winslow  
Mr. Bert Cole  
Dr. Weldon Bosworth

nsp/smelt/jaffess0421ltr

